

a mobile phase (with analyte)".

2. Page 9, lines 16-18:

"In the above example, the rotor can be switched back and forth during any period ranging from perhaps 0.1 to 10 seconds, or in other words, on an order of magnitude of one second".

3. Page 10, lines 4-6:

"If the aliquot passage is cycled between its two positions with a high enough frequency, the result is a continuous mass flow of analyte into the mass spectrometer".

Applicant believes it is absolutely clear that the actuator and the aliquot passage on the shuttle that is moved by the actuator, moves "repeatedly between only said first and second positions".

The Examiner added a new reference Stone (3,885,439), to Yoshida or Laursen to reject Claim 1. Claim 1 describes a transfer module for passing a small portion of a primary stream (24 in Fig. 2) along a continuous secondary stream (104). The module includes an actuator (141) that automatically moves a shuttle repeatedly only between first and second positions to repeatedly move samples from the primary stream (24) to the secondary stream (104).

As discussed in the last amendment, neither Yoshida nor Laursen relate to splitting a small secondary stream off from a primary stream, or suggest an automatic actuator to move a shuttle between only two positions to do this. Stone moves his channel (104) between three different positions, and he states that his valve "is of particular usefulness in providing discontinuous sampling" (col.3, lines 17-19) rather than in providing a continuous secondary stream.

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In view of the above, entrance of the above amendment is requested to place the application in better condition for appeal. If the Examiner should wish to discuss this application, she is invited to call Leon D. Rosen at (310) 477- 0578.

Respectfully submitted,



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